

encouraged the dissemination of what were then new and unheard of results, that insanity was a highly curable disease, many might have been led to have sought aid here who were permitted to suffer long and hopelessly, ignorant of the existence or the success of such an institution. A sensitiveness on this head perhaps morbid, if a failing, was one which 'leaned to virtue's side.'

"During the last year he has gone to his reward. I have no fear in hazarding the opinion that his professional character as a guardian of the insane, will continue established and unshaken by the lapse of time, as a reputation founded on a solid and indestructible basis. He never courted the breath of popular applause; his name will not drop, when its evanescent currents shall have passed by!"

From the report of Dr. Ray, of the Maine Insane Hospital, we have the following statements. On the 31st of December, 1841, the institution contained 36 males and 18 females, total 54; since which 50 males and 37 females, being a total of 87, have been received, making the entire number under care during the year, 141, of whom 86 were males and only 55 females. During the year 76 patients have been discharged, of whom 36 had recovered—16 were improved—18 had not improved, and 6 had died. A large portion of this excellent report is devoted to a discussion of the value of statistics as an indication of the success of different institutions—the deceptive character which they may assume unless accompanied by full details of the rules and regulations of each hospital,—and the difficulty always experienced in arriving at entire certainty in the forms of tables usually given. In his remarks on all these points, Dr. Ray's views are just and founded on correct principles. The whole report is well written, and can hardly fail to be of service to the community in which Dr. R. is located. We notice that Dr. Ray expresses a very positive opinion as to the insanity of Wood who murdered his daughter in this city in 1840—an opinion, which we believe we are safe in saying is not held by a majority of the profession in this section of country.

The report of Dr. Awl, of the Ohio Institution, also evinces much zeal and industry, and contains a large number of valuable statistical tables and judicious observations upon them.

At the end of 1841, this asylum contained 142 patients, of whom 74 were males and 68 females; 30 males and 33 females, a total of 65, have been admitted during the last year,—making the entire number under care 207—of whom 65 have been discharged or died—leaving 142 still under care at the date of the report. Of the 65 discharged, 41 had recovered; 13 were incurable, and 11 had died.

The house has been full during the whole year, and numerous applicants have been turned away for want of room. The propriety of additional buildings is strongly urged, and there is every reason to expect that the state will authorize a considerable extension of the asylum, at least sufficient to meet all the applications for the admission of recent cases.

Dr. Awl reverts to the suggestion which has been occasionally made, that a convention of the medical officers of the different hospitals for the insane in this country, by leading to uniformity in their reports, would be rendering great service to the profession, and promote the acquisition of an invaluable mass of statistical information. The suggestion is worthy of consideration by those at the head of these valuable institutions.

T. S. K.

ART. XXVII.—*The Northern Lakes a Summer Residence for Invalids of the South.*  
By DANIEL DRAKE, M. D., Professor in the Medical Institute of Louisville.  
Louisville, 1842, pp. 29, 8vo.

THERE is a great number of valetudinarians and *ennuyés* in this country as elsewhere, who annually visit the different places of fashionable resort, some with the hope of getting rid of real, still more of imaginary complaints,

and others again with a view of pleasantly "killing time." If at the end of the season they find that their object has not been attained, they are still buoyed up with the hopes of its realization the following season, by a visit to another resort. In this way they soon go the rounds of all these places, and are compelled to try them again in succession, though with much diminished hopes. Dr. Drake has conferred a real boon on the class of persons in question, by pointing out to them an additional resource. This is afforded by our northern lakes, a tour of which offers the advantages of novelty, great variety, magnificent scenery, a pure cool air, and many historical associations of interest.

"An inspection of a map of North America will show," says Dr. D., "that this numerous and extensive group [our northern lakes] lie to the north of nearly all the states; their centre of gravity, the island of Mackinac, being in the meridian which separates Ohio from Indiana, cuts through the middle of Kentucky and Tennessee, and, dividing Georgia from Alabama, reaches the Gulf of Mexico between East and West Florida. The eye still being kept on the map, the inhabitants of the South may trace out the routes by which they can reach and embark upon the lakes. First, they who reside west of this meridian, should ascend the Mississippi and Illinois, to Chicago, on the western shore of Lake Michigan; or taking the course of the Ohio river, cross the State of Ohio by land from Cincinnati to Sandusky City, or by the canal from Portsmouth to Cleveland. Second, they who reside east of the central meridian, may cross the mountains to Pittsburgh, and make their way, either by land or water, to the town of Erie in Pennsylvania; or take the New York route to Buffalo, at the eastern end of Lake Erie, or that to Oswego on Lake Ontario.

"The eastern extremity of Ontario, of which Oswego is the 'seaport,' lies about one degree east of Washington City—Milwaukee on Lake Michigan, and Navarino at the head of Green Bay, eleven degrees west; thus the voyage of the lakes extends through twelve degrees of longitude. Sandusky City, the most northern port of Lake Erie, is in latitude about  $41^{\circ} 35'$ ; Gros Cap, at the entrance into Lake Superior, in lat.  $46^{\circ} 29'$ , giving a range between these parallels of five degrees. Such are the present limits, but when steamboats shall be placed on Lake Superior, which must be done at no distant time, the voyage will be extended many degrees to the west, and north to the 49th. As it is, the people of the South, from Louisiana to Carolina, may journey and sojourn, during the heats of summer, in a climate from  $10^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$  north of their own. The central lakes, Erie, Huron, and Michigan, either of which is more extensive than all the lakes of Europe taken together, are at present, and, indeed, will continue to be, the chief places of resort.

"The voyage from Buffalo to Chicago is more than 1200 miles; on which the traveller is carried by long stretches to the west, the north and the south, never out of sight of land on Erie, and not long on Huron and Michigan. During the three summer months, he will seldom encounter heavy gales; but from the shallowness of Lake Erie, it becomes agitated by gentler winds, and it is not uncommon for the invalid to experience the unwelcome benefit of a turn of 'seasickness.' When an occasional tempest stirs up the deeper waters of Huron or Michigan, a more formidable agitation, such as the Atlantic might not disown, arises, but this is of rare occurrence. Hence the dangers of a voyage upon the lakes are almost limited to fire, as sawyers do not exist, and rocks are scarce, while the ample 'sea-room' is an adequate guaranty against the fatal rencontre of boat with boat, which, on our rivers, destroys or cripples so great a number. From Buffalo to Chicago and Milwaukee, there is a daily line of steam packets, not inferior in size, strength and convenience to any in the United States; from Buffalo to Navarino, at the farther end of Green Bay, a regular packet runs every fortnight, and from the same eastern port to the *Sault St. Marie*, 15 miles from Lake Superior, one or two boats go every summer. The whole of them touch at the Island of Mackinac, both going and returning. In addition to these, there are many small steamers running between all the intermediate ports of Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and the beautiful river St. Clair, up to Fort Gratiot and Port Huron, in the State of Michigan, and Port Sarnia, in

West Canada, all at the lower end of Lake Huron. Some of these boats also ascend the Sandusky and Maumee rivers to their rapids, at Lower Sandusky on the former, and the towns of Maumee and Perrysburgh on the latter. From Sandusky City, from Toledo on the Maumee Bay, from Monroe on the River Raisin, and from Detroit, railroad cars run from 30 to 80 miles into the interior of Ohio and Michigan; finally, at Mackinac and the *Sault* (rapids of the St. Mary), there are for traders' skiffs, and birch canoes, with which French *voyageurs* and *Indians* are ready, at all times, to carry travellers along or across the numerous straits which there connect together the three greatest lakes of the continent. Thus, facilities for visiting every interesting locality, in and around these Mediterranean seas, are entirely within the reach of those who may embark upon their bosom."

'The summer tourist will find much that is interesting and instructive in Dr. Drake's pamphlet.

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ART. XXVII.—*Report of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, for the year 1842.* By THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE, M. D., Physician to the Institution. Philadelphia, 1843, pp. 50, 8vo.

OUR No. for April last contains a very full account of this valuable Institution—a description of the buildings and grounds, an account of its organization, and the statistics for the year 1841. We shall glean from the report before us such facts as will continue its history up to the present time.

Since the publication of the article just referred to, "the contractor has completed the Lodges or detached buildings, for such patients as from habitual noise or other causes, were likely to prove an annoyance to those who resided in the main hospital. They have been occupied during the greater part of the year, and have been found to answer admirably, the purposes for which they were erected. Some of their inmates, even of the very worst class, have manifested a decided improvement in their habits, from the stricter classification, and more perfect supervision, to which they have been subjected.

"The arrangements for ventilation and for warming every part of these buildings, are believed to possess many advantages, and the airy and cheerful halls, which are used during the day, have contributed vastly to the comfort of those who occupy them,—have enabled us to dispense almost entirely with restraining apparatus, and made a resort even to seclusion, a comparatively rare occurrence.

"At the date of the last report there were 115 patients in the hospital, since which 123 have been admitted and 120 have been discharged or died, leaving 118 under care at the close of the year. Included in the admissions are 12 from the hospital in the city, who with 93 previously received from the same source, make a total of 105, who had been residents of the old institution. Of these 105 patients, one had been resident there more than fifty years,—one more than forty, and several, thirty, twenty, and ten years. Of the whole number received from the hospital in the city, 81 were considered decidedly incurable and not offering the slightest chance for restoration.

"The highest number in the hospital at one time since its opening, was during a part of the last month of 1842, being - - - - - 127

The whole number of patients under care in 1842, was - - - - - 238

Of those discharged during the year 1842, were—

Cured,	- - - - -	60
Much Improved,	- - - - -	11
Improved,	- - - - -	19
Stationary,	- - - - -	18
Died,	- - - - -	12

Total, 120

"Of the patients 'cured,' thirty-seven were residents of the hospital not ex-